"Men of the Time."—The publication, entitled *Men of the Time*, treats the architectural profession very slightingly, not to say scurvily; for although it professes to include *architects*, with regard to that class its promise should have been made in the singular instead of the plural number, Mr. Barry being the only one belonging to it who has obtained a niche in its pages,—and an exceedingly meagre and evasive notice it is. Yet there are others whose names are not unknown even to the general public, and who have quite as good a right to figure among the celebrities of the day as some of the people who are there dragged in. There is Welby Pugin, for instance, who has been not a little zealous and influential in the cause of mediæval art. There is also his opponent, Mr. Ruskin, who was surely entitled to notice, not indeed as an architect, but as an author and a critic, whose writings are, it seems, as popular as they are original. Still more strange, perhaps, to say, even the celebrity of Paxton has not obtained him admission into this literary Valhalla. Poor Sir Joseph! After all, however, the excluded may reconcile themselves somewhat philosophically to their lot, when they discover who are some of those who have got in, and also some of those who have been kept out; among which last are the Earl of Carlisle, Sir Charles Fellowes, Hagbe, Powers, Thorburn, and many other men of mark. As to the women, they are all put under an extinguisher.—Q. IN THE CORNER.

Smoke Nuisance.—I have read your recent article on this subject, and ask your leave to call attention to the action of the reverberatory furnace heated with hot blast (recommended to be used in the working of my patent for making pipes, bricks, &c.): the waste heat of one furnace is sufficient to generate steam for an engine of ten-horse power (or three furnaces will work a forty-horse power), and afterwards to heat the air-pipes for hot blast. If properly worked, no uninflamed carbon ought to escape through the flues, thereby remedying the nuisance you speak of. —Wm. G. Elliott.

Engineers, Birmingham.—The Royal assent has been given to the supplemental charter of the Queen's College, in this town, and the Great Seal attached to it. Amongst other privileges conferred on the town and midland district, the supplemental charter enacts, in order to promote the mining and manufacturing interests, "That students who have completed not less than a three years' course of instruction in the engineering and architectural departments of the said college, and have passed, to the satisfaction of the examiner or examiners to be appointed by the council of the said college, three public examinations, shall be entitled to the academic rank of civil engineer in the said college, and receive from the principal a diploma under the seal of the college." "Her Majesty's further will and pleasure is that two members of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and two members of the Architectural Society established in Birmingham, to be elected by their respective societies previously to the annual general meeting of the governors of the said college, shall be members of the council of the said college."

Lectures to Working Men.—Dr. Lyon Playfair lectured on 9th inst. at the Museum of Practical Geology, to artizans, on glass and its composition. It seemed to us that Dr. Playfair did not come up to the standard of previous efforts. We have had some communications on the subject of these lectures, but they reached us too late for consideration.

APOTHEGM.

"The Architect, who raires in the air
Enormous structures, massive, grand, and fair,
Leaves to the world the genius of his mind,
And is a benefactor of mankind!"

Andrew Park.

"Builder," Feb. 7.

Oh! Andrew Park, your apothegm is rare,
For few indeed the mighty truth would find,
That those who build their castles "in the air"
Become the benefactors of mankind.

P. De T.

Glass.—The ferro-vitreous order of construction, it appears, is now about to be applied, not only to horticulture, but to zoöculture. Light is an important agent in the animal as well as in the vegetable economy, and cattle have been found to thrive and grow far better under a transparent roof than under one of impervious material. An experiment of a glass cow-house, 96 ft. long by 18 ft. wide, has recently been made by Mr. Lawford, F.H.S., of Tirydail, near Llandilo. Mr. Lawford has flowers, strawberries, grapes, &c., growing under the same roof; and the building being cheaper than others, as well as more healthful, he has erected a larger one for the accommodation of two lines of cattle.——The *Philadelphia Ledger* says that Mr. T. B. Rapp has invented a coffin of glass, which can be made air-tight, and of sufficient strength to prevent bulging. The price is higher than when composed of the universal material. The invention is to be patented.

Fire-proof Construction: Fire in a Factory.—On Sunday week a large factory belonging to Messrs. Thos. Freen and Co. cement and plaster of Paris merchants, &c. situate No. 3, Wharf, Regent's-canal, Kingsland-road, took fire. The floors were covered with large flag-stones, for the purpose of making the premises perfectly fire-proof, but these proved of no avail, and, on the contrary, are said to have retarded the exertions of the firemen. A powerful body of water was poured into the premises, but the moment it fell upon the stone, the flooring heaved to and fro in a remarkable manner, and finally parted asunder as if it had been shattered with gunpowder. The flames then shot forth with terrific fury, firing every portion of the factory, which was thus destroyed, together with a heavy stock of goods, machinery, &c.

Edinburgh School of Design.—The annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of this school took place in the Royal Institution on Friday week, Lord Rutherford in the chair. From the annual report to the trustees it appears that the number of students has continued about the same for the last three seasons, namely, 154, with 16 applicants. The occupations of the students are as follow:—Artists—Painters, 32; sculptors, 3; architects and engineers, 19; total number of artists, 54. Artisans—House painters, 6; ornamental painter, 1; engravers, general, 11; do. of pictures, 4; do. on silver, 2; do. on wood, 7; lithographers, 9; seal engravers, 3; die, stamp, and punch cutters, 3; silversmiths and chasers, 3; jeweller, 1; wood carvers, 8; ornamental modeller, 1; potter, 1; plasterer, 1; pattern maker, 1; glass stainers, 4; gilder, 1; brass-founders, 2; coach painters, 2; block makers, 2; upholsterers, 5; joiners and cabinetmakers, 9; chair makers, 2; smith, 1; tailors, 2; miscellaneous, 8; total number of artisans, 100. During the past session one artist turned picture engraver; one heraldic painter do. artist; one lithographer do. artist; two engravers do. artists; one engraver do. ornamental modeller; one engraver do. joiner; one engineer do. pattern maker. Perspective has been taught as usual to several of the students.

Art-Artisans' Institute.—Two important and influential meetings have been held at Bradford for the purpose of hearing and considering the views and explanatory statements of a deputation from the Council of the Society of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, with reference to a proposal of that society to aid in the establishment of Artisans' Drawing and Modelling Schools." The meetings were convened by the mayor, in compliance with a requisition signed by some fifty of the mercantile firms in the borough. Much interest was expressed in favour of the project, and various appropriate resolutions were passed. The first affirmed the great advantage which elementary drawing and modelling schools would confer upon Bradford, and the desirableness of establishing a self-supporting institution in connection with the Society of Arts. The second appointed a committee to carry out the project of such an institution. The third opened a list of shareholders. A prospectus, in which the provision of a suitable building is referred to and explained, has been issued.

Somersetshire Archæological Society.—The fifth *conversazione* of the season took place on Monday, the 2nd instant. The Rev. Frank Warre read a paper on "The early Manorial and Domestic Buildings of England," some of which he illustrated by his own sketches.

Valuation of St. Luke's, Chelsea.—The survey and valuation of this parish, prepared by Mr. Paine, has recently received the approval of the Poor-Law Board. The number of assessments is 8,665, which present a total annual rateable value of 212,777*l.* and a gross estimated rental amounting to 329,919*l.* Some idea may be formed of the nature and extent of this survey, when it is stated that the *weight of the book* (a volume wherein these assessments are set forth) exceeds 56 lbs.: it is bound and secured with clasps and patent lock, having three keys, to be disposed of as the Board may direct, so that alteration, without authority, is effectually prevented, and it is prepared on such a principle that it may become a standard document of reference in the event of assessments being *accommodated*, or otherwise, as is sometimes the case.

Dwellings for the Middle Classes.—A "Father of a Family," and other correspondents who are evidently amongst our newer series of readers, ask us to advocate the construction of a superior class of dwellings for persons with from 100*l.* to 150*l.* a year, and willing to pay 25*l.* to 40*l.* a year for rent of a separated floor, or "house," as they call it in Scotland, erected in some central situation for business. We have long and frequently urged the construction of such dwellings, and we are glad to find the want of them now forcing itself into notice, and we hope that an increasing demand will soon be responded to by some enterprising builder. That which, in a somewhat less complete state as to modern conveniences, has not only been found practicable, but has long prevailed, in Paris, Edinburgh, and elsewhere, cannot but be suitable to London. The argument sometimes adduced against it on the score of the cost of ground here is an absurd one, based on the very reverse of the truth.

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